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SELECTIONS FROM THE RECORDS OF THE BOMBAY GOVERNMENT.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

VACCINATION

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PRECIS OF INFORMATION RELATIVE TO THE MEASURES WHICH, DURING THE LAST FEW YEARS, HAVE BEEN ADOPTED, UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF GOVERNMENT, FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF VACCINATION IN THE NON-REGULATION DISTRICTS UNDER THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

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1854.

Précis of information relative to the measures which, during the last few years, have been adopted, under the authority of Government, for the introduction of Vaccination in the Non-Regulation Districts under the Bombay Presidency.

Under date the 30th November 1848, Dr. Mahaffy, Vaccinator North-Western Division, Guzerat, brought to the notice of the Superintending Surgeon of the Northern Division of the Army, that having found the Native Establishment under him quite inadequate to carry out in the extensive, and, in some parts, populous districts under his charge, the benevolent intentions of Government with respect to Vaccination, he had been induced to suggest privately to Captain Wallace, the Political Agent in the Mahee Kanta, the great blessing it would be to the people in that province if the Chiefs would consent to support a couple of Vaccinators, to be kept constantly employed in his districts, and had at the same time mentioned that the whole expense might not exceed Rs. 40 a month. "Captain Wallace," Dr. Mahaffy continued, "at once agreed to afford my suggestion the warmest support, and has offered to guarantee the pay of one Vaccinator himself. I am, therefore, induced to submit the scheme to you, and should it meet with your approbation, and that of the Medical Board, I have no doubt that other Chiefs in Guzerat could be induced to support Vaccination. For instance, the Nuwab of Radhunpoor has made frequent applications to me for a Vaccinator, and has even offered to pay all the expenses attendant on his proceeding such a distance. I have no doubt, when the matter is brought to his notice, he will gladly afford assistance. There would still be ample room for the employment of my present establishment in the Ahmedabad and Kaira Zillahs, and in the extensive districts of the Gaekwar north of the Mahee."

This communication was placed before Government, and circulars were addressed, on the 3rd March 1849, to the several Political Officers under this Presidency. The following is an outline of the results:—

Sawunt Waree.

I. On the 16th of March 1849, Major G. LeGrand Jacob, then Political Superintendent of Sawunt Waree, reported that the Sawunt Waree State afforded support already to "a small vaccinating

department, under the supervision of Mr. Sub-Assistant Surgeon Spencer." The following are the results in that State, from 13th May 1844 to 31st July 1853, under that superintendence, and under the Vaccinator of the Division :—

Vaccinated from 13th May to 15th July 1844..	2,134	persons.
„ in the year 1845....	4,828	„
„ „ „ 1846.....	4,505	„
„ „ „ 1847.....	943	„
„ „ „ 1848.....	9,723	„
„ „ „ 1849.....	5,586	„
„ „ „ 1850.....	4,859	„
„ „ „ 1851.....	6,183	„
„ „ „ 1852.....	2,422	„
„ in the first seven months of 1853..	2,964	„

II. The Resident at Satara, under date the 15th March 1849, No. 27, forwarded for the information of Government a memorandum by Surgeon J. Murray (for several years Civil Surgeon at Satara) on the system of Vaccination pursued in the Satara Jageers, according to which it appears that "prior to 1845 Vaccination had not been introduced into any of these Jageers, except Akulkot, where a Vaccinator had been entertained while the estate was under British management. After the restoration of the Jageer to the management of the Raja, and the consequent withdrawal of the Medical Officers from Akulkot, the vaccine lymph appears to have gradually degenerated, and in 1845 it was found to be altogether extinct." In 1845, Native Vaccinators were entertained by four of the Satara Jageerdars, the Raja of Akulkot, Punt Sucheo of Bhor, Nimbalkur of Phultun, and Dufle of Jhut, and, at the close of the year 1848, one was appointed to the Jageer of Punt Prutineedhee of Kurar. In 1849, a Vaccinator was entertained at Kurar, and the following abstract shows the progress which has been made in each of the Jageers during the past eight years :—

Satara.

	Akulkot.	Phultun.	Jhut.	Bhor.	Kurar.	Total.
In 1845	263	238	123	315	..	939
1846	425	194	442	577	..	1,638
1847	644	691	902	791	..	3,028
1848	900	1,206	999	1,242	..	4,347
1849	677	995	923	873	605	4,073
1850	155	939	739	884	493	3,210
1851	No return received at Satara.	658	756	375	505	2,314
1852		878	1,067	966	704	3,615
Total ...	3,064	5,799	5,951	6,025	2,307	23,144

In his report on this subject, dated the 8th March 1849, Dr. Murray observes :—" Experience has shown here, that there are two things indispen-

sably necessary for the thorough introduction of Vaccination into the territory of a dependant Jageerdar, or other Native Chief: the one is that the Chief himself should take a personal interest in the progress and success of the measure; and the other, that there should be the means of direct European supervision. It is not enough that a Jageerdar agrees to entertain and keep up a Vaccinator. He may do this, and still have done little or nothing for the furtherance of the object in view. Unless he evince the reality of his interest in the cause, by using his personal influence in promoting its success, and by extending his countenance and protection to the Vaccinator, the people will be slow to avail themselves of the proffered boon. While the Vaccinator is thus aided by the Chief in whose service he is employed, it is of equal importance that his operations should, from time to time, be personally inspected by a Medical Officer. It is only by periodical tours in the districts where Vaccination is being carried on, that he can satisfactorily ascertain whether the vaccine lymph has been kept in a state of purity, and renew it where it has been found to have degenerated."

III. The Political Agent in the Rewa Kanta reported, under date the 22nd March 1849, that the Raja of Rajpeepla had replied to his representations by applying for a Vaccinator to be permanently stationed in his territory, on a salary of Baroda Rs. 18 a month. On the 4th of October following, another letter was addressed to Government by the same officer, explaining, that with the exceptions of the Rajpeepla Raja and the Oodeepoor Raja, (who offered to pay Rs. 5 a month towards the entertainment of a Vaccinator,) the different Chiefs under that Agency had declined to be at any expense on this account—the Rajas of Loonawara and Sonth declining on the ground of poverty; the Raja of Deoghur Baria and the manager of Godra on the plea that the people were opposed to Vaccination.

Rewa Kanta.

In a report from the Political Agent Rewa Kanta, dated the 17th August last, that officer states:—"There is only one Vaccinator employed in the Rewa Kanta Agency, and his services are confined to the Rajpeepla State, from the revenues of which his salary is paid. During the early part of this season, while visiting these districts, I sent for the Vaccinator to inquire how he was progressing, and from the information thus obtained it appeared to me, from personal conversation with this officer, that the progress he had made was very satisfactory, as his operations had been confined to the more open parts of the country. I suggested he should endeavour to introduce Vaccination among the wild Bheels, who often suffer most severely from small-pox."

IV. Under date the 14th April 1849, No. 141, the Political Superintendent of Pahlunpoor reported, that the Dewan of that State had "most willingly agreed to entertain a Vaccinator, on the

Pahlunpoor.

terms mentioned by Dr. Mahaffy, Rs. 18 per mensem." Subsequently the following results have been reported from Pahlunpoor:—

Vaccinated in the last six months of 1850....	1,595	persons.
„ „ year 1851	3,210	„
„ „ „ 1852.....	2,879	„
„ „ first six months of 1853..	1,444	„

Radhunpoor. The following results have also been reported from Radhunpoor:—

Vaccinated in the last six months of 1850....	397	persons.
„ „ first four months of 1851..	234	„
„ June 1852	55	„

V. The Resident at Baroda was unsuccessful until last August, on the 31st of which month he writes:—"I have great pleasure in stating, for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, that I have succeeded in persuading his Highness the Gaekwar to commence the employment of Vaccinators in Baroda and some of the other towns in his dominions. His Highness had agreed to entertain, in the first instance, four Native Vaccinators, on the same pay as they receive in the Honorable Company's service, and I would suggest that orders be at once issued to the Superintendent of Vaccination in Guzerat, directing him to send four qualified persons to me as soon as possible. His Highness wishes that the persons sent should be men now in employment under the Superintendent, and, I imagine, this will not cause any inconvenience, for it would not take long for that officer to impart instruction to new hands sufficient to enable them to work under his own superintendence. His Highness has stipulated, that he shall retain full power to dismiss the Vaccinators, and discontinue Vaccination at his pleasure, and as the arrangement is entirely dependant on his free will and consent, I have taken upon myself to consent to this; but it would be satisfactory to His Highness that Government should expressly recognise the stipulation."

Baroda.

The Medical Board having been requested to give effect to His Highness' wishes, if possible, the Superintendent of Vaccination has been instructed by the Board to place four properly qualified Assistant Vaccinators under the Resident's orders immediately; it has been likewise resolved, in the event of these Assistant Vaccinators being discharged from the Gaekwar's employment, that they shall be re-admitted to the service of Government in the positions they formerly held under it as Vaccinators.

VI. The Political Agent in the Mahee Kanta wrote, under date the 5th June 1849, No. 55–238, "the Raja of Eedur has agreed to defray the expense of one Vaccinator for his own districts, and a proper man has been supplied by Doctor Mahaffy, and is now vaccinating in the Eedur villages." He then adds: "One person, however, is not sufficient, and though I have good hopes of being able to get the minor Chiefs to

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club together, and secure the services of another, in time, yet, I could not for the present expect sufficient permanent support to warrant my calling for another Vaccinator from Dr. Mahaffy; I feel, however, so sanguine of eventual success, that I am induced to request permission to pay out of the Sadra Bazar Fund, which is now rich, the salary of another Vaccinator, at Rs. 15 per mensem, crediting the fund with all sums in aid that I may be able to obtain from the Chiefs. An experiment of one year will, I think, justify me in my expectation that they will give sufficient assistance to render so great a blessing as Vaccination both permanent and easily attainable, throughout the Mahee Kanta." The permission here requested was immediately accorded, and the following results have been since reported:—

Vaccinated in the last ten months of 1849...		1,017	persons.
„	„ year 1850.....	1,000	„
„	„ „ 1851.....	4,054	„
„	„ „ 1852.....	5,021	„
„	„ first nine months of 1853.	2,634	„

VII. Mr. Inverarity, Political Agent in the Southern Muratha Country, reported, under date the 27th August 1849, No. 412, that "as the various Sirdars, with the exception of the Chief of Jumkhundee, are averse to the maintenance within their estates of salaried Vaccinators provided by Government, I have recommended them to send their Weids or Native practitioners for instruction to the Civil Surgeon, Dr. Waller, who has expressed his readiness to impart to them all the knowledge requisite to render them skilful and successful Vaccinators."

Southern Muratha Country.

Writing under date the 4th October last, this Officer reports that "the progress which has been made, since August 1849, in the introduction of Vaccination into the territories of the Jageerdars of the Southern Muratha Country, may be said to be little or nothing. Individuals were sent to Belgaum by the Chiefs of Ramdoorg and Jumkhundee, who state that they carried on Vaccination on their return to those territories, but the requisite materials for Vaccination must have long since failed for want of renewal. In the remaining estates Vaccination may, from the infrequency of its use, be said to be unpractised."

VIII. Mr. H. L. Anderson, Acting Political Superintendent of Kolhapoor, writes, under date the 5th November 1849, No. 688:—"Both these Sirdars [the Chief of Inchulkurunjee and the Khan Saheb] I found utterly averse from entertaining Vaccinators in the territories under their control, and I therefore waited until the opening of the season, to try what effect my arguments might have in a personal interview. I am now happy to report that both have consented to the arrangements proposed. With respect to the States of Bowrah and Vishalghur, I would respectfully solicit the sanction of Government to the employment of a Vaccinator in each, on a salary of Rs. 10 per mensem. This stipend is rather lower than the

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amount proposed in the Civil Surgeon's letter, but I observe * * * that a similar salary has been given in the estates of Punt Sucheo and Punt Prutineedhee of Satara, and I do not think we can with justice demand a more liberal arrangement from Punt Amatya and Punt Prutineedhee of Kolhapoor. I entirely concur in the remark made by Mr. Broughton, Civil Surgeon of Kolhapoor, that it would be productive of much good if His Highness the Raja would permit his own son to be vaccinated, and it affords me much gratification to state that His Highness has now consented that the young Prince shall undergo the operation."

Under date the 17th August last, Major Graham, the Political Superintendent of Kolhapoor, reports :—" On the receipt of the Government sanction, during the year 1848, one Vaccinator was received on the establishment of the Kolhapoor State, and, after considerable persuasion, the four dependant Jageerdars of Vishalghur, Bowrah, Kagul, and Inchulkurunjee, also agreed to entertain duly qualified operators, on a monthly stipend of Rs. 10, allowing at the same time to each Vaccinator the services of a peon to assist in the execution of the duty. The sanction of Government to the measure was received during the following year. The country was then apportioned, and each Vaccinator, after being examined and approved by the Civil Surgeon, was entrusted with a district, the smallest of which contained a population of 50,000 souls. The entire management was placed under the Civil Surgeon, who received his weekly reports, personally inspecting the proceedings of the subordinates, and intimating periodically to the Political Superintendent the progress of the measure. Notwithstanding every effort made by Dr. Broughton, personally and by stringent remonstrance, through this Department, a great resistance to the introduction was at first displayed in every quarter; and although the Vaccinators were allowed free movement in the districts, difficulties were continually thrown in their path by the Chiefs and respectable Sirdars, and during the first year 896 cases were only secured. During the year 1849 the same difficulties presented themselves: a continued direct or indirect influence was encountered in all the higher classes to support the old system of Inoculation, which was supposed to be more in union with their religious prejudices; but a certain progress was nevertheless effected, and the list of the year amounted to 1,408 successfully treated cases. During the year 1850 frequent remonstrances were offered to all the Chiefs and respectable people, and as the Jageerdars had now become convinced that the Government intended to retain the Vaccinators as a permanent measure, direct opposition was considerably laid aside, and, the strain being somewhat removed, the Vaccinators were enabled by their exertions to increase the number of cases to 2,680. During the year 1851 a horde of Inoculators spread over the country from the Konkun, and as the Patel's fee of one rupee was invariably given, the village authorities no doubt very willingly lent their aid in obtaining children for the tax-paying Ticcadars. I was in consequence induced to issue a lengthy circular of advice, containing the opinions of the College in Bengal

on the subject of Inoculation; and the death, also from small-pox, of the young heir to the Inchulkurunjee estate, produced a salutary effect on the minds of the influential Sirdars. Under the increased difficulties, however, the progress of the measure happily did not retrograde during this year, and a return of 2,600 was duly received, as having been successfully treated. During the year 1852, the opportunity was taken of an introduction of the system into the palace, as His Highness, who had been previously prevented, by the untimely death of both his children, now expressed his wishes for the Vaccination of his nephew. The operation was personally performed by Dr. Broughton, who at the same time vaccinated numerous children belonging to the palace establishment. This notorious triumph over religious prejudice in high station no doubt produced a very considerable effect on the minds of all classes. The scruples of the more influential were also greatly removed by the opinions of the learned Bengal Shastrees. Assistance was at length obtained by continued remonstrance and advice, and the ignorance and bigotry of the inhabitants were so successfully combated, that during this year 6,115 children were vaccinated—a number nearly equalling the result of the three previous seasons. In conclusion, I would respectfully beg to refer to the annexed return, showing the number of children vaccinated during each year, from 1848 to 1852, and would beg to state that small-pox is certainly on the decrease in the Kolhapoor districts, owing to a discouragement of the visits of the Ticcadars, and a growing interest in the present system; and although the increased number obtained during the last season forms but a small portion of only one-fifteenth of the entire number of children within the territory, still, on taking into consideration the great portion of wild Konkunee inhabitants, who will necessarily require greater patience and perseverance to overcome their scruples, the return would appear gratifying, showing a cost on the individual case greatly inferior to what is incurred in England; and I am in confident hopes that the practice of Inoculation will, within a short period, entirely disappear."

IX. Major Lang, Political Agent in Kattywar, wrote, under date the 30th July 1852:—"The Bhownuggur, Gondul, and Joonaghur authorities have entertained two men each for their respective talookas; but, as they were all unwilling to arrange for their being paid through us, I have been unable to get them placed under the entire superintendence of the Civil Surgeon, which would be necessary, to ensure their keeping up the Vaccination regularly, and making satisfactory progress with it. The Bhownuggur Vaccinators were reported at one time to have given up the duty, on account of the insufficiency of the pay they received, but the Thakoor's agent informs me that they have again been entertained. Those of Gondul and Joonaghur have only been employed during the past year, and the whole of them have been shown how to vaccinate by our own Government Vaccinators. It will be advisable, when they have been a little longer employed, to get them to furnish the Civil Surgeon with returns of the work they do, and I will

Kattywar.

endeavour to get them otherwise placed more under his control in everything except their payment, which I may likewise, perhaps, be able to get all the Chiefs to fix at the same rate, although they all appear to wish to keep it in their own hands."

Under date the 15th October 1853, in reporting the deplorable ravages of small-pox in Jhalawar during the previous cold season, Major Lang notices the readiness of the Chief of Drangdra to maintain one or more Vaccinators in his talooka. Measures for the more general dissemination of the vaccine in this Agency, under the control of the Medical Board, have recently been sanctioned.

The following results have been reported from the Kattywar Agency :—

Vaccinated in the	three last months of 1850.....	1603 persons.
„ „	nine last months of 1851.....	2858 „
„ „	six first and three last months of 1852.	4118 „
„ „	six first months of 1853.....	4348 „

Kutch.

X. Major G. LeG. Jacob, Political Agent in Kutch, has been unsuccessful. He wrote, under date the 12th August 1852 :—"His Highness appears indifferent to the spread of this blessing, saying that the Medical Establishment at Bhooj suffices for the few that can be persuaded here to avail themselves of it, and that it is useless to attempt more, as all the leading men of his country will have nothing to do with it, though he has set them the example in his own family." As an accompaniment to this letter, Major Jacob forwarded a report from Assistant Surgeon Bloxham, from which the following extracts are taken as to the state of Vaccination at Bhooj :—

"Since 1838, the records have been kept very irregularly, as will be seen by the following table of the numbers vaccinated, viz :—

1838.....37	1847.....171
1839, 1840, 1841.....No record.	1848 and 1849.....No record.
1842.....33	1850.....52
1843, 1844, 1845, 1846..No record.	1851.....75

"I am happy to say, that during the last half year there has been a greater disposition to take advantage of the benefits of Vaccination than for some years past, for during that period about seventy individuals have submitted to the operation."

The subjoined extract from Major Jacob's Annual Report, dated the 20th May 1853, supplies the following very deplorable picture of the consequences of the neglect of Vaccination in Kutch :—

"The small-pox rages here virulently, and this last year especially so. There were few houses either here or at Bhooj containing children that escaped. The Mandvee deaths are reported at between 1,100 to 1,200, at Bhooj 500, in Anjar 800, in one small town (Ruv) in Wagur alone 200, and the total number swept away by this scourge in the course of a few months must be estimated

in thousands. I have not failed to make this calamity serve as a text for advice and expostulation with every Chief I have met during my tour, and as much as possible in open assemblies, so as to impress on all classes the advantage of bestirring themselves to save life by the simple means European science has placed at their disposal; but such is the profound apathy of the people, that whilst neither premises nor conclusions were denied, after my eloquence had been expended, I generally retained the impression that a man might be supposed to entertain after discoursing with the waves of the sea. Not one Chief could I get to send a Wyed or village Brahmin, or anybody into Bhooj, to be instructed in Vaccination, and this in a Hindoo community, considering their veneration for the cow, and the simplicity of the art, shows how their minds are numbed."

Sind.

XI. The Commissioner in Sind, in a letter dated the 25th August 1852, states, that "except perhaps the territory of His Highness Meer Ali Moorad, there is no part of Sind where the existence of Jageers or Chiefships would render necessary any system different from that followed in Government villages, and I do not think any good would come of broaching the subject to His Highness at present."

The Hubshee and the Raja of Jowar.

XII. The Collector of Tanna having been requested, under date the 24th November last, to use his best endeavours with the Chief of the Hubshee Territory, and the Raja of Jowar, he replied, under date the 26th January following, that these Chiefs state "that their people are unwilling to accept Vaccination."

(Signed) A. MALET,
Chief Secretary.

13*th February* 1854.

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